

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SEPTEMBER MARKS THE START OF NATIONAL RECOVERY  
MONTH—A CELEBRATION OF RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOL  
AND DRUG ADDICTION**

SACRAMENTO — The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs will kick-off the 11<sup>th</sup> annual National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month rally on the west steps of the Capitol, September 1, 2005. The rally, a celebration of recovery, brings together thousands of local citizens who have successfully completed treatment.

A free pancake breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. to the first 1,000 people to attend. Exhibits begin at 9:00 a.m. and follow with a rally at 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Guest speakers include: Kathryn P. Jett, Director of the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, legislators and a lively performance by the Mary Lind Foundation Choir, musical ambassadors of sobriety known for their work in encouraging recovery. All are invited to join the celebration of recovery at California's state Capitol.

On any given day in California, there are 172,000 individuals in publicly funded treatment. Methamphetamine is the primary drug of choice for 31-%, followed by alcohol at 21-%, heroin 20-%, marijuana/hashish 13-%, and cocaine/crack 11-%.

Every year thousands of individuals complete treatment for substance abuse. A recent report on drug courts found that drug courts save taxpayers money, reduce substance abuse and keep families together.

Recovery Happens is free and open to the public. For more information please call the California Association of Addiction Resources (916) 338-9460.

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